

What's New in the MPDC

APRIL 2, 2001

NEW GRANT SUPPORTS EAST OF RIVER YOUTH INITIATIVE

Chief Ramsey and local clergy members this week joined America's Promise, the national nonprofit, and the Novartis Corporation to announce major new support for a community-based development program for young people living east of the Anacostia River. America's Promise awarded The East of the River Clergy Police Community Partnership (CPCP) a \$30,000 grant, through funding from Novartis Corporation. The grant will support the development and implementation of the 5 Promises Checklist - a new tool to help adults connect youth with needed resources, such as tutors, health care and after-school programs, for the area east of the Anacostia River. The funding also supports Congress Heights' Promise, the second local affiliate of America's Promise in the DC Area. The East of the River CPCP is a collaboration of more than 20 churches, 25 social service organizations and 5 law enforcement entities whose mission is to reach, assist and transform young people and their families, especially those whose lives have been affected or influenced by crime, violence and drugs. Find out more about the CPCP and the new grant at:

America's Promise was founded after the Presidents' Summit for America's Future in 1997; retired General Colin Powell is the founding chairman. For more information about the group's work visit:

www.americaspromise.org

www.mpdc.org (Click on News)

MAYOR'S BLUE RIBBON COMMISSION ON YOUTH SAFETY CONDUCTS HEARINGS

Mayor Williams' Blue Ribbon Commission on Youth Safety and Juvenile Justice Reform will conduct two public hearings to obtain community input on a variety of issues related to youth safety and juvenile justice. The meetings will be held March 31 at Cardozo Senior High School and April 5 at Anacostia Senior High School. The format will include small group discussions moderated by facilitators. Mayor Williams established the Blue Ribbon Commission in August 2000 to study youth safety and the District's juvenile justice system and to make recommendations for improvement and reform to the Mayor by September 1, 2001. Learn more about the Blue Ribbon Commission and its hearings by going to:

Written comments can be sent to Ali Basir, Office of the Deputy Mayor for Children, Youth, and Families, via fax (202- 727-0246) or e-mail (ali.basir@dc.gov).

www.washingtondc.gov/mayor/news/advisory.asp?id=108

FREE CELL PHONES FOR CITIZEN PATROL GROUPS

Sunday marked the beginning of Daylight Savings Time. With longer days and, hopefully, warmer weather, now would be a good time to consider starting up a phone patrol in your neighborhood. To make it easier for citizen patrol and neighborhood watch groups in the District to obtain free cellular phones under the Communities on Phone Patrol (COPP) program, the MPDC has put the application form on-line. The telephones are pre-programmed to 9-1-1 and the 3-1-1 non-emergency number, allowing citizen patrol participants to have instant access to the police. To learn more about COPP, and to access the on-line application form, go to:

www.mpdc.org (Click on Services & Programs)

MPDC OFFERS WEEKLY WALK-IN TESTING FOR POLICE OFFICER CANDIDATES

The MPDC is still looking for recent or soon-to-be high school graduates interested in the Police Cadet program. The first test date is April 28th. Get more details at:

www.mpdc.org
(Click on Career Opportunities)

To make it more convenient for candidates interested in taking the entry-level examination for the position of police officer, the MPDC is now offering weekly, walk-in testing. Beginning April 12th, applicants can take the initial exam every Thursday at 1 p.m., at the Recruiting Office, #6 DC Village Lane, SW, Building 1-B. Call 202-727-2767 or 202-645-0445 for information or directions. Learn more about career opportunities in the MPDC, and initiate the application process on-line, by clicking on:

www.mpdc.org (Click on Career Opportunities)

CHIEF RAMSEY INITIATES INVESTIGATION INTO INAPPROPRIATE COMMUNICATIONS OVER MDC NETWORK

Chief Ramsey announced that the Metropolitan Police Department will soon begin collecting data on contacts its officers have with members of the community during traffic stops, field interrogations and other activities. After a recent audit of email transmissions through the Mobil Digital Computers, and the subsequent discovery of offensive and racist messages, the Chief convened an emergency meeting of the Civil Rights Task Force, a group he meets with on a quarterly basis, to discuss the issue of profiling and other forms of police misconduct. They met three weeks ago, when Ramsey agreed to begin exploring how other agencies collect data concerning racial profiling. Subsequent to that session, Ramsey met with Montgomery County Police Chief Charles Moose and scheduled a meeting with Chuck Wexler, executive director of the Police Executive Research Forum, to discuss best practices of data collection and analysis from throughout the country. This information will help guide the methods the MPD develops for collecting and analyzing data on community contact. For more information, go to

The Chief has issued a statement to MPD Officers regarding this recent discovery of inappropriate use of emails on the MDCs. You can read the text at:

www.mpdc.org
(Click on News, select Recent Statements from the bottom of the page)

www.mpdc.org (Click on News)

QUICK GUIDE TO CONTACTING THE MPDC

If you or your group would like to receive informational materials about 3-1-1 – including brochures, flyers, refrigerator magnets and stickers – call 202-727-9346 or e-mail: kmorison_mpdc@excite.com.

Need to call a specific police district or a specialized unit? Want to know about MPDC's various toll-free hotlines – CrimeSolvers, hate crimes or corruption? Unsure about when to call 9-1-1 vs. 3-1-1, the MPDC's non-emergency number? This information and more is available on-line through the Quick Guide to Contacting the MPDC:

www.mpdc.org (Click on Telephone Directory)

Information, ideas or comments about this service?

E-mail Kevin Morison, MPDC's Director of Corporate Communications, at kmorison_mpdc@excite.com.

Would you like to have this information emailed to you? Just go to our web site and register with crimereports.com.

METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT WEB PAGE
WWW.MPDC.ORG